

March 2014

# HIGHLIGHTS

CEDAR HILL

## Food for Fines feeds tummies and minds

The Food for Fines Amnesty Program at the library ran through the entire month of January. Patrons had late fees waived in exchange for non-perishable food items for the Cedar Hill Food Pantry..

Over 100 relieved patrons returned library materials and brought in 1,161 food items to get their fines waived. The largest amount waived was \$500 and the smallest was 80 cents.

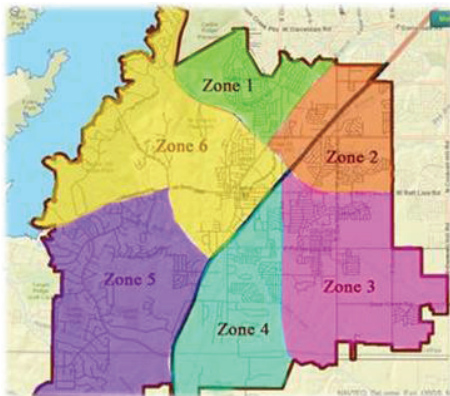
Patrons expressed gratitude to the library for offering this program to help them with their fines. Many were apologetic and very generous with their donations of food items. Circulation Coordinator Theresa Brooks said, "The staff is happy to help the community come back to the library after lapses due to fines."



**Library staff members helped collect over 1,000 food items for the Cedar Hill Food Pantry during the recent Food for Fines program. Left to right: Travis Walvoord, Aranda Bell, Kelsey Armistead, Tenicia Taylor, Gene Sims (Food Pantry Director), Theresa Brooks, Toni Simmons, Winfred Thompkins, Teri Nelson, Karen Stanfill, Angela Carey and Dan Watkins.**

## City Council to meet with south central neighborhoods

**Tues. March 18 at 6:30 pm - Cedar Hill Church of Christ, at 535 S. Clark Road (Zone 4)**



**City Council Neighborhood Regional Meetings Map**

Residents east of US67 and west of Clark Road are invited to the next neighborhood meeting with the City Council, set for Tuesday, March 18.

Strong neighborhoods are the foundation of a strong city. Your Mayor and City Council members have scheduled six opportunities for residents to share concerns and dreams for their neighborhoods.

The two meetings so far have been well attended and residents have expressed their appreciation to City Council members and staff.

### City services

At these meetings, hosted by Mayor Rob Franke and the members of the City Council, residents get a brief summary of the neighborhood services provided by many of the City's departments. Then there is a short survey, with live responses, about perceptions of City services.

Residents can then choose one of several smaller breakout groups for one-on-one meetings with City Council members.

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## Citizens' Fire Academy hands-on experience for the rest of us

Ever wonder what it is like to be a firefighter? Spend 10 weeks learning the ins and outs of the fire service.

Citizens' Fire Academy classes include CPR, using the "Jaws of Life," fire extinguisher training, learning about the equipment, and the actual extinguishment of a fire in the burn house.

The Citizens' Fire Academy will begin on March 27, 2014. Classes will be on Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. for ten weeks. Graduation is on May 29, 2014.

Most of the classes will be held at the Cedar Hill Fire Department Central Station, located at 1212 W. Belt Line Rd. in Cedar Hill. However, there will be trips to offsite locations for live burns and tours.

There is no charge to the participants. All materials, along with a T-shirt, are provided.

Potential candidates for the Citizens Fire Academy must meet the following criteria:

- Minimum of 18 years of age
- Live or work in the city limits of Cedar Hill
- No prior felony convictions

To begin registration, please email Fire Marshal Randy Jordan at [randy.jordan@cedarhilltx.com](mailto:randy.jordan@cedarhilltx.com).

## Neighborhood know-it-all

Nextdoor is the private social network for you and your neighborhood. It helps neighbors keep in touch. Check it out at [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com).

## At Cedar Hill's Earth Day Events

# It's easy to be green

The City of Cedar Hill will show how easy it is to be green at this year's Earth Day celebration on April 21 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Government Center, 285 Uptown Boulevard.

Visitors will learn how sustainable practices are already in place all over the city, and plans include a legacy of environmentally-friendly practices.

This year's festivities will feature activities and entertainment for the whole family including a self-guided video tour of sustainable exhibits, recyclable

crafts with Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful, face painting, and performances by the Bray Elementary choir and Cedar Hill High School Band. Community organizations, such as Home Depot and the Dogwood Canyon Audubon

Center, will also have booths. For more information about Earth Day, check out [cedarhilltx.com](http://cedarhilltx.com) or [www.greencedarhill.com](http://www.greencedarhill.com).



## Taking it to Big D

The City will take its Growing Green show

on the road to the Earth Day Texas event at Fair Park in Dallas on Saturday, April 26 and Sunday, April 27 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

City staff will showcase sustainable practices including our City Center plans, Parks, Trails and Open Space plan, and educational videos about the City's various sustainable practices. Come show your support for the City and mother earth at this free family event.

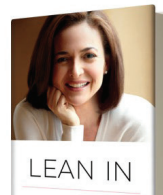
## Keeping Cedar Hill Clean

Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful is looking for talented, passionate people who want to make a difference in our community. We are also inviting residents to 'adopt a street' in conjunction with our Saturday roadway trash collection from 9-11 a.m. Contact Don Hughes at 972.765.4285.

## Lean In and learn at library discussion group

In recognition of Women's History Month, the City of Cedar Hill is hosting a community discussion

of the national best-selling book, **Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead**, by Sheryl



Sandberg on Monday, March 31, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Zula B. Wylie Library located at 225 Cedar Street.

**Lean In** discusses ways women are held back and hold themselves back through stories and research and offers advice how women can propel themselves to achieve their ambitions. To bring these themes close to home, female community leaders will serve as panelists, discuss the themes of the book and share their personal experiences overcoming

obstacles to be in positions of leadership.

Copies of the book can be checked out at the library. Join the conversation and lean in to your success.



## Gone wireless?

### Help us get back in touch

If you've cancelled your home phone you may no longer be receiving important messages from the City. Please register your mobile phone number(s) at our secure site: [cedarhilltx.com/citymessage](http://cedarhilltx.com/citymessage)



People make it a community



S.T.A.R. student Camron Goodman receives his award from City Council Member Cliff Shaw at the Feb. 11 meeting. Camron is President of the Senior Class at CHHS and serves on the Student Council. He has been active in JROTC, many community service projects and his church. With a light agenda, Council members invited him to sit with them the rest of the meeting, which he did.



BELOW Police Chief Rhodes recognizes the neighborhood citizen coordinators and police officers who organized and participated in the City's award-winning National Night Out Event. Every year participation increases and more residents join in this neighborhood strengthening event, helping make our community safer.



### Free tax help from AARP

Every Tuesday until April 15 AARP volunteers will provide free help to residents with tax questions on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Zula B. Wylie Public Library at 225 Cedar St. Bring your records. It's first come/first served.

# 1 2 3 4 5 6 C A L E N D A R

For the most up-to-the-minute information on events, check out the City's online calendar by scanning this QR code with your smartphone. Free QR scanners are available in your phone's app store.



## March

### 15 Walk the Light Arts Festival

Noon to 10 p.m. in and around Historic Downtown

Enjoy a creative festival of display and performance art "Where Old Meets New"! And don't miss Beetlemania, the VW car show organized by derLuftkuhlers. Visit [cedarhilltx.com/walk-thelightartsfestival](http://cedarhilltx.com/walk-thelightartsfestival).

### 18 Neighborhood Town Hall Meeting #4

6:30 p.m. Cedar Hill Church of Christ, 535 S. Clark Rd.

For residents east of US67 and west of South Clark Road. Speak with your Mayor and City Council members; let them know your hopes and dreams for our community. Learn about the many services the City provides residents from representatives of City departments.

### 22 Green Run 2014

7-11 a.m. Uptown Village at Cedar Hill, 305 W. FM 1382

Join the fun and learn how the City uses green practices to improve our community by creating sustainable and healthy neighborhoods. This event benefits the Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center in Cedar Hill. Register for the 5K or fun run/walk at [cedarhillgreenrun.wix.com/2014](http://cedarhillgreenrun.wix.com/2014).

## April

### 5 Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful Spring Cleanup

9 a.m. - Noon, Virginia Weaver Park

Help keep our city beautiful by joining a team to clean up your favorite neighborhood, school, creek, street or park. A hot dog lunch will be provided after the cleanup. More information at [cedarhilltx.com/kchb](http://cedarhilltx.com/kchb) or call Neighborhood Services Manager Stacey Graves at 972.291.5100 x1094.

### 12 David Milson Legacy Run

7 a.m. - Registration begins at Cedar Hill High School

Help support the memory of CH Men's Varsity Basketball Coach David Milson by participating in this run that benefits Cedar Hill Lions Club Charities. For more information visit [davidmilsonlegacyrun.org](http://davidmilsonlegacyrun.org).

### City Council Meetings

Your City Council usually meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays monthly, except for November and December. The most recent agenda is available at [cedarhilltx.com/agenda](http://cedarhilltx.com/agenda). Briefing sessions usually start at 6 p.m. and the City Council Meeting starts at 7 p.m.



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cedarhilltx.com/calendar/home

## Council/Neighborhoods

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These meetings are set at locations in all parts of the city to make attendance more convenient for residents.

### Upcoming meetings

**March 18,** 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Cedar Hill Church of Christ, 535 S. Clark Rd. for residents in Zone 4, east of US67 and west of South Clark Road.

**April 15,** 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Ninth Grade Center, 1515 W. Belt Line Road, for residents in Zone 5, south of Mansfield Road and east of Lake Ridge Parkway and US 67.

**May 20,** 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 128 N. Roberts, for residents south of FM 1382, east of US67 and north of Lake Ridge Parkway and Mansfield Road.

### What's it all about?

Meetings with neighbors help maintain Cedar Hill's small town feel, help the City focus services on needs expressed by residents, and improve communication.

The goals are to learn the concerns residents have about their neighborhoods and find out what the City and neighbors can do together to bring about positive changes.

Should you have any questions, please contact Stacey Graves, Neighborhood and Code Services Manager at 972.291.5100 ext. 1094 or stacey.graves@cedarhilltx.com.

## Alarm Monitoring 911SWRCC

For only \$25 a month, you can have your home or business alarm monitored by the same local professional staff that dispatches police and fire crews for the City of Cedar Hill.

Instead of your alarm notifying someone several states away, this system connects directly into our local 9-1-1 call center.

Saving seconds can save lives.

It's only \$25 a month and there is no long-term contract required. For more information contact SWRCC at 972.230.5248.

## Business on the Hill



## City's EDC partners for small business

The City of Cedar Hill believes that when you succeed, our city succeeds, and we have found a way to support you. The Cedar Hill Economic Development Corporation has partnered with the Best Southwest Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and PeopleFund, a non-profit lender, to offer PeopleSpark, an innovative business education and loan readiness program targeting entrepreneurs in Cedar Hill.

PeopleFund's mission is to create economic opportunity and financial stability for underserved people by providing access to capital, education and resources to build healthy small businesses. The Best Southwest Small Business Development Center offers no-cost, one-on-one consulting for start-up and existing businesses on loans and financing, financial statement analysis, marketing, accounting and recordkeeping, sales, advertising, business planning, management and more.

### Loan eligibility

PeopleSpark is a 6-month program for entrepreneurs which covers business feasibility, business planning, budget and projections, cash flow management and much more. In addition to the workshops, participants will have the opportunity to work with a business advisor from the Best Southwest SBDC. Participants, who graduate from the program in October, may be eligible for a small business loan from PeopleFund.

The program begins on April 12, 2014 and will be held at the Best Southwest SBDC, located at 207 N. Cannady Drive in Cedar Hill. For more information or to register for PeopleSpark, please contact the PeopleFund at 214-942-6698, or the SBDC at 972-860-7894.

## City Contacts

EMERGENCY 911

Administration 972.291.5100x1010

After Hours (Answering service)  
972.780.6643

Alarm Monitoring 972.230.5248

Animal Control 972.223.6111

Animal Shelter 972.291.5335

City Secretary 972.291.5100x1011

Code Enforcement 972.291.5100x1090

Economic Development 972.291.5132

Fire Department, non-emergency  
972.291.1011

Human Resources 972.291.5100x1050

Library 972.291.7323

Municipal Court 972.291.5100x1041

Neighborhood Services  
972.291.5100x1094

Parks & Recreation 972.291.5100x1500

Parks Adult Rain-outs 214.855.9758

Parks Youth Rain-outs 972.480.5868

Police Department, non-emergency  
972.291.5100x2400

Public Relations 469.272.2903

Public Works 972.291.5126

Recreation Center 972.293.5288

Senior Center 972.291.5353

Tourism 972.291.5100 x1084

Trash & Recycling (Waste Management)  
800.772.8653

Utility Billing 972.291.5100x1200

## CEDAR HILL HIGHLIGHTS

Published by the City of Cedar Hill

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